

THE BLAIRMORE ENTERPRISE

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50 CENTS PER ANNUM.



1944



... UPON A STAR

Under the bright Italian sky, three of our soldiers spoke tonight of the gifts that they would choose, the sombre Christmas Day.

A lean, wheat-haired prairie boy Spoke of things remembered. Let me feel the lithe whip Of that light steel casting rod And the battered old hat With the leather band. Mail me some of the ham 'n' eggs Mother cooked on Sunday morning And the yellow sweatshirt I wore, Then the "W" with my name on the door And a piece of the old yard With picket fence and raspberry canes And a setter who answers to "Bess". I'll take the case full of books And the old typewriter And my tool set, if you please, With some shavings of pine And, oh, yes, the ice skates (Behind the garage door).

A husky lad from a western town Spoke of sight and sound. Send me the train whistle's cry Across the sleeping town And the pull of the summer wind In the hills of the mountains Make me a fat parcel, please, Of waves along a familiar beach, The market at Saturday noon, Rain running in the eaves, The camp in the Spring With the maples turning green

And a guitar player in the night. Let me hear Foster Hewitt again, The shouts of kids in the pool And the milk wagon's rattle Going down the morning street. These are the gifts for me. With maybe some fun after a storm Across the wide, wet gulf.

An eastern boy, slim and dark, Spoke of portraits in his mind. I'll take the Christmas crowds In the bright city streets With the Santa Claus every corner And the carol-singing boys Standing in the snow. If you can send a female V-mail Send me a wife who in the yellow dress Who waits today in the white cottage On a high hill with a view. I'll take the beet-faced Irish cop, The laddie who works with the shop, The policeman named Gus And all the friends and folks. Who shared the things of living. If there is a Kringle, Kris, or Santa Claus, let him be A daughter with a button nose And eyes brown as chocolate drops; A daughter I've never seen.

Now a strident whistle blew. Our troops were moving up the line. The tall kid rose and grimed and said: "Let's Go! Christmas lies ahead!"

Symbols of Christmas

The elements which beset Christmas are many and varied, ranging from the Eastern Star, the Three Wise Men and the Manger, to flowers and animals, as the asp, the camel and, to children, most of all, the reindeer. One of their pictures as speeding Santa Claus on his way from rooftop to rooftop as he distributes gifts to the little ones the world over.

Few will be unfamiliar with the famous "Visit from St. Nicholas" by Clement Clark Moore. The eight tiny reindeer which pulled Santa in his sleigh, dear to their hearts for, even in the days of the ancients, the people knew that Santa's appearance the night before Christmas depends entirely on these steeds.

Legend has it that St. Nicholas lives in a climate of ice and snow accounts largely for the belief that reindeer are his beasts of burden — these animals being almost solely used for this purpose in the far reaches of Europe and Asia.



What was the Star of Bethlehem?

A considerable literature has been written on the Star of Bethlehem, but without clearing up a mystery. If the elements of Christ's birth were known, there would be no mystery. The date may have been as early as 11 B.C. or as late as 4 B.C. There is every reason for believing that Christ was born on the day of the year on which Christ was born. The church simply carried on a pagan tradition which originally bore no relation to Christ's birth. Was the star seen in the Orient? There is a historical account of it that complies with the astronomical facts. For lack of an exact date the comet hypothesis cannot be discounted.

The Bible does not purport to be a textbook on astronomy. The narrative of Herod and of the Wise Men who saw the Star in the East that went before the child, is a story of the place where the young child was, all to their "exceeding great joy", is intended only to describe an important event in the life of Christ. We are told simply that a star indicated to the Wise Men that a birth had occurred which was of consequence to the whole civilized world and that the star pointed out the place where the child was born. It is possible to infer from Matthew ii, 10, that in some way the Wise Men had for a time lost sight of the star, so that the two facts mentioned relate to two separate appearances. Of these two, the first induced the Wise Men to leave their ease and set out for Judea; the second indicated the place where the birth had occurred, way Bethlehem. The star merely served as a guide.

It has been suggested that the Star of Bethlehem may have been the a plausible guess.

planet Venus, which shines brightly at times. Wise Men who came out of Caldea and who knew their planets were not likely to have made any sunspot calculations.

In some planetaria of the country it is the fashion to follow the devout and learned Kepler by displaying on artificial sky a conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn as it occurred on May, 7 B.C. The two planets could never be so close that they would never be good eyes.

Modern astronomers are inclined to believe that the Star of Bethlehem did not have a star that is a faint star which exploded and shone brightly for weeks and perhaps months. Such supernova have appeared in historical times. Tycho Brahe saw such a supernova in 1572 in the constellation Cassiopeia. At its brightest it was visible by day, and it outshone Venus. Though it gradually faded it was visible to the unaided eye (Tycho had no telescope) for sixteen months.

At any rate the supernova hypothesis is the most satisfactory. A sunspot conjunction was known to impress practical star gazers, just as it impresses experienced astronomers today. The supernova hypothesis is little better than a guess, but of

Heartiest Season's Greetings

D. OLIVER
Drayton
BLAIRMORE : ALBERTA

We Join our Many Patrons
in Wishing One and All
The

COMPLIMENTS OF THE
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F. A. Ruzicka
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May Your Yuletide
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Heartiest Greetings of
The Season to our
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Best Wishes for a Very Happy
Christmas and Prosperous

New Year

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Wishing All
a Merry Christmas

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Heartiest Greetings
for Christmas and
The New Year

FRANK A. BEEBE
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"Merry Christmas"
our Happy Greeting
to all

HOME BUILDERS'
HARDWARE
G. H. Snod, Mgr.
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The Compliments
of the Season

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BLAIRMORE : ALBERTA

Silent Night, Holy Night



★ THE GUIDING STAR ★

Across the Eastern firmament A Star shone forth that night, And they who came to find their King Were guided by its light:

The Star moved on until it stood

And there they found The Babe they sought.

Calm in His manger bed

Christians still breathe with joy and love.

As on that Holy Night,

When Wise Men saw His guiding Star

That gleamed so strong and bright:

And throughout all ensuing years,

The Star that guided men of old,

Has guided things sublime.

Christians still breathe with joy and love.

As on that Holy Night,

When Wise Men saw His guiding Star

That gleamed so strong and bright:

And throughout all ensuing years,

The Star that guided men of old,

Has guided things sublime.

Men of good will on earth,

And children glad, expectant, learn

The Story of His birth,

And none before him bow.

In lowliness, The Prince of Peace
Unto the world was born;
In humble guise He healed the sick
And counselled the forlorn;
And throughout all ensuing years,
The Star that guided men of old,
Has guided things sublime.

Christians still breathe with joy and love.

As on that Holy Night,

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That gleamed so strong and bright:

And throughout all ensuing years,

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Henry Aynsworth Britton

Reminiscence

Across the years extends
A golden ray of light,
That floods the heart with memories
Aglow the darkest night.
And like the sweetest song of birds,
It thrills, at coming dawn,
To spur, by noble thought and deed,
New kindness yet unborn.

Sweet are those treasured memories
Of verdant, buoyant youth;
When love was pure and constancy
Went hand in hand with truth.

When rustic beauty filled the land,
The sea, the air, the sky;
While glamor still lay hidden deep
With moral standards high.

How strange, seems now, the trend of life,
Compared with olden time,
When God seemed nearer in each home.

And made the home sublime—
The place of Christian love's abode,
Like in the cornerstone
On which, foundation firm, was laid
Our nation's strength—alone.

Today, what forces running wild,
So deaf to Law Divine,
Would breach the walls, the founders built.

So firm, in perfect line,
The wonders science has brought—
forth—

God's gift to humankind,
Man uses to destroy
His plan, all hearts to bind.

—George H. Sweetnam.

Great Battle Prayers of British History

King Henry V at Agincourt, near Dieppe, France, A.D. 1415

(According to Shakespeare)

"O God of battles, steel my soldiers' hearts,
Possess them not with fear; take them from now
The sense of reckoning if the opposed numbers
Pluck their hearts from them. Not today, O Lord,
Oh, not today, think not upon the fault . . .
Though all that I can do is nothing worth;
Since that my penitence comes after all
Imploring pardon."

Admiral Sir Francis Drake, Sadiz, Spain, 1588

"O Lord God, when Thou givest to Thy servants to endeavor any great matter, grant us also to know that it is not the beginning but the continuance of the same until it is thoroughly finished which yieldeth the true glory; through Him that, for the finishing of Thy work laid down His life, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ."

Admiral Lord Nelson against Napoleon, 1801

"May the great God, Whom I worship, grant to my country and for the honest of Europe in general, a great and glorious victory; and may no misfortune let anyone tarnish it; and may humanity after victory be the predominant feature in the British Fleet. For myself individually, I commit my life to Him that made me; and may His blessing alight on my endeavors for serving my country faithfully. To Him I resign myself and the just cause which is entrusted to me to defend. Amen, Amen, Amen."

Admiral Lord Nelson against Napoleon in the Mansion House, London, England, shortly before the invasion of France, June 6th, 1944.

"Then there must swell up in the nation every noble thought, every high ideal, every great purpose which has waited through the weary years; then, as the sap rises in the nation, the men will feel themselves to be the instrument of a new-born national vigor. The special glory of the whole endeavor must be a surge of the whole people's finest qualities, worthy to be the prayer: 'Let God arise and let His enemies be scattered'."

Excerpt from speech by General Bernard Montgomery in the Mansion House, London, England, shortly before the invasion of France, June 6th, 1944.



"Serve the Church that the Church May Serve You."

**CENTRAL UNITED CHURCH
BLAIRMORE**

Rev. James McElveen, Minister

Services Sunday next:

11:00 a.m., Senior school.
2:00 p.m., Junior school.
7:30 p.m., Public Worship.

"v"

ST. LUKE'S CHURCH, BLAIRMORE

Rector: Rev. W. E. Brown

The Fourth Sunday in Advent: Midnight Holy Eucharist 11:30 p.m.

Tuesday will be St. Stephen's Day; Wednesday, St. John the Evangelist; Thursday, Holy Innocents. Let us remember on each of these days the spiritual lesson and the great example of the Saints of God.

Thursday:

War Intercession 7:30 p.m.

Choir practice 8 p.m.

"v"

SALVATION ARMY, COLEMAN

Lieuts. S. Nahirney and R. Hammond, Officers in charge.

Sunday services:

11 a.m., Holiness meeting.
2:30 p.m., Directory class.

3 p.m., Sunday school.

7:30 p.m., Salvation Meeting.

Tuesday: 7:30 p.m., Red Shield Auxiliary and Home League.

Thursday: 8 p.m., Praire Meeting. Funerals and dedications on application to the local officer.

"v"

HILLCREST UNITED CHURCH:

Services every Sunday at 8 p.m.

BELLEVUE UNITED CHURCH:

Services at 7:30 p.m. every Sunday.

COWLEY UNITED CHURCH:

Services alternate Sunday mornings at 11 o'clock.

Rev. W. H. IRWIN, Minister

"v"

BELLEVUE BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor Evangelist: Alfred Siple

10:30 a.m., Sunday school.

11:30 a.m., Morning service.

We preach the Victory Life of Christ, and invite you.

Mrs. J. Rogers, senior, of Coleman, was honored by the Rebekah Lodge on December 14th, the occasion of her eightieth birthday anniversary, when she was presented with a beautifully engraved locket on behalf of lodge members.

Rev. W. H. IRWIN, Minister

"v"

COWLEY HAPPENINGS

Louie Gregory, who had been residing at the Cowley airport, has been transferred to Lethbridge. J. G. Rogers has returned to duty at the Cowley airport, following a month's holiday spent at Vancouver and other Pacific coast points.

Mrs. Person was a visitor to Lethbridge the early part of the week.

Mrs. George Dwyer has returned from a few days visit at the home of her son, Arthur, at Pincher Creek, who is in the army, but now home on an enforced leave through illness.

Friends will be pleased to learn that Eddie Smyth is back home and doing well following an operation in the Calgary General hospital.

Miss Nellie McWilliam has resigned the post as principal of the Cowley school. She has taught here over a long term of years and will be greatly missed.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Snyder are receiving congratulations upon the birth of a daughter at St. Vincent's Hospital, Pincher Creek, on Wednesday of last week. Both babe and mother are doing well.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Horning, of De Winton, owing to the serious illness of the latter's father, Mr. A. G. Swart, inmate in hospital at Pincher Creek, arrived a few days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook, formerly of Pincher Creek, who have taken over the general store of Mrs. I. Christie, moved their household effects here during the week, while Mrs. Christie has moved to her new home in Pincher Creek.

Mrs. F. A. Tustian entertained the ladies of the local Red Cross for their monthly meeting on Thursday afternoon. Aside from the business routine, the chief interest was tacking tags on pyjamas and sweaters preparatory to shipping to headquarters in Calgary.

The ending of the fall term of Todd Creek school is to be celebrated by a social evening, with the parents of pupils present and serving luncheon under the supervision of the teacher, Miss Patricia Wilson.

Miss Helen Maloff, elder daughter of Mrs. Vera Maloff and the late Mr. Mike Maloff, was united in marriage to Mr. Roy Chismokoff, of Verigin, Sask., on Wednesday, December 13th, in the Pincher Creek United church. Rev. Mr. Goddard officiating. The happy couple left for the groom's home on Thursday. The bride's mother accompanied them to Verigin, where she will visit her parents.

On Tuesday evening a large gathering of children and parents and friends assembled in the Anglican church hall here to enjoy the concert and Christmas tree sponsored by those who are in charge of the United Sunday school. Mr. Arthur Tustian was chairman, while Mrs. Tustian officiated at the organ. The teachers of the Sunday school are to be congratulated upon the painstaking way they are teaching the children the word of God in verse and song. Although a large number of the pupils are small, they said their scriptural verses well and sang the carols sweetly. Rev. Mr. Green and Mrs. Green, of Brocket, were present and, after a delicious luncheon served in the recreation room, Mr. Green addressed the crowd, emphasizing missionary work and pointing to the needs of the destitute and starving peoples in foreign lands. The delivery to each child in turn of a lovely gift and a bag each of candies and goodies brought this most enjoyable evening's entertainment to a close.

Mr. A. G. Swart, who had been in failing health for the past five years, died early Wednesday morning in St. Vincent's hospital at Pincher Creek. Funeral service is to be held in the Cowley United church on this Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock, following which the remains are to be forwarded to Lethbridge for burial. Rev. W. H. Irwin, of Bellevue, will be in charge of the service here, members of the Masonic lodge, of which he was a member, will attend in a body, while at Lethbridge the IOOF will be in charge. Mr. Swart moved here from Lethbridge in the fall of 1920 and, together with his brother Billie, operated a general store. Besides a loving wife, he leaves two children to mourn his loss. Mrs. Norman Horning, of De Winton, and Gordon overseas; one brother, Billie, and two grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Norman Horning, formerly of Pincher Creek, have returned to Alberta. They are proprietors of the Java Shop, formerly Colombo's Coffee Shop, located in the former Colombo's building at 101 1/2 Main Street, Lethbridge. They have recently renovated the shop and are now serving light lunches, ice cream, soft drinks and confections.

Mrs. J. Riva, Proprietress

BLAIRMORE

**IMPRESSIVE SERVICE
AT UNITED CHURCH**

The Blairstown United church was filled to capacity on Sunday evening, December 17th, when the CGIT Department took charge of the service. Christmas decorations and lighted tapers provided a suitable background, and Christmas carols softly played by the organ and violins set the mood for a beautiful service.

The call to worship was given by Mrs. J. McElveen, and responded to in song by the congregation. This was followed by a pageant on "Canadian Friendship," with Miss Dorothy Moore as narrator. Five girls, Bernice Mark, Josephine Wainet, Vera McLeod, Ellen Jones and Charlotte Mudiman, lighted tapers in tribute to the various nationalities and creeds who have contributed Christmas carols. A Negro Spiritual, based on the Christmas Story, was feelingly rendered by Shirley Rae, followed by a Polish carol sung by the choir.

Mrs. McElveen led the congregation in prayer. Then an introduction to the cantata was given in poetic form by Rita Bonneau. The entire girls' choir, under the able direction of Mrs. J. Boerner, who also presided at the organ throughout the service, took part in the cantata, "The Birthday of the King." The solo part was sung by Rita Bonneau, duet by Helen Slopak and Esther Erickson, and two quartets included Shirley Montalbetti, Kathleen Walker, Mary Claire Steeves, Ellen Jones, Shirley Rae, Nora Beltrame, Hazel Oakes and Jean Montalbetti.

Mary Claire Steeves dedicated the offering, which was ably received by Jack Patterson and Roy Tucker. Led by Helen Slopak, assisted by Shirley Montalbetti and Kathleen Walker, the impressive candle-lighting service brought to a close a service rarely equalled in solemn beauty. As the girls and their leaders filed through the church and lighted the candles, one could not help but feel that soon again there would be "Peace on earth, goodwill toward men."

The allied war office announced that the Japanese have worked more than 60,000 white captives under such brutal and inhuman conditions that 24,000 of them have died. The Japanese themselves have erected a memorial to 25,000 men who died in building the Thaland-Burma railway and road.

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Mrs. J. Riva, Proprietress

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Sing again, O Christmas angels, "Peace on earth, to men good-will." For our stubborn hearts are needing Messages from Heaven still.

Though two thousand years have blossomed.

Since that card from above Men yet battle with their brothers. For they have not learned to love. Bring us Christians, blessed angels, Bending down from Heaven's bairn, For our nations need a love-song. And our wise men lack a star.

We have waited a long time—two thousand years since that first Christmas night—and still the promise of the angelic chorus is not fulfilled. But there can be peace on earth; there will be peace on earth when we say with our lives as well as with our lips, "Glory to God in the highest," when in business and pleasure, in politics and in international relations, we allow the God of love as revealed in Jesus to rule unrivaled in human lives.

As another Christmas Day dawns, may the spirit of the Christ Child bring abundant blessings to your lives and homes, and may the year 1945 bring us all closer to Him who is the Prince of Peace.

Sincerely yours,
James McElveen,
United Church, Blairstown.
"v"

ANGLICAN BISHOP'S MESSAGE

My dear People:

Once again Christmas finds us in the throes of war, with suffering on every hand and great anxiety in the hearts of many people; but it is just to such people that Christmas 1944 will have a special message—the assurance that God does care! For it was to a suffering people that God first made the revelation of His Love in the Birth of His Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

The message is that God sees, and cares for His children, that He loves and that He saves us from the evil which surrounds us.

God's gift of His Son at Bethlehem, and the self-giving of Jesus to which Paul refers in Philippians 2, verses 5-8, are the earnest of that love and the assurances that He knows and cares and helps. May this knowledge give you peace within your soul this Christmas.

In our own anxieties, due to the present stress, let us not forget: the younger ones, who do not understand, and therefore are not conscious of the stress of the times. Let us seek to give them the joy of this blessed Season.

As we thank God for the Gift of His Incarnate Son, let us show our thankfulness by our generous gift, at this season, to God's servant, His minister in your Parish, for whose personal use, you will remember, the Offertories on Christmas Day are assigned.

O Love, that maketh heavy burdens light; O Love, that maketh bitter things more sweet; O Love, that robs the darkness from the night; That maketh tired, wayward pilgrim feet.

Not only in the Bethlehem of old, But in the mews and streets, and at our door:

Not only in the chalice gleaming gold, But in the patient faces of the poor We Find Thee—yea, we find Thee every day, In morn and noon and on crosses by the way, Yea, even our own soul's darkest agony.

May I be a Cave of Bethlehem for Thee. May God bless you all, and give you a very happy Christmas, and in His mercy grant the Victory of Righteousness and Peace to us in the coming year.

Very sincerely,
Your friend and B'shop.
Richard, Calgary.
"v"

Next Sunday night, the 24th, is being planned as family night in the United church here, when it is hoped the children will be present with their parents at the service. There will be a children's story, several special musical numbers, the singing of familiar Christmas hymns and a short Christmas message from Mr. McElveen, who trusts that all families of the congregation will be represented at this Christmas Eve service.

In the silence when we pray.

I will breathe my intercession Before God's altar there.

And the best told to him alone.

And the best thought I can send you Is from him and not mine own.

And your name shall be remembered In the blessed presence there.

Where remembrances are sacred.

And each memory holds a prayer And where loving thoughts shall leave

In a loving Father's care.

Now, as I say "au revoir," it may

cheer you to know every Thursday

night at St. Luke's there is a service

of intercession and you are remem

bered by name.

"Now the God of Peace, that

brought again from the dead our Lord

CHRISTMAS 1944 - NEW YEAR 1945

Greetings for Christmas — Good wishes for New Year.

"Hail to December, say they all, It gave to earth Christ the Lord."

My dear Friends and especially to the Boys overseas:

The year 1944 is, because of defeat inflicted upon the brutal forces closing with high hopes of a United Nations' victory in the struggle to regain and restore world freedom and individual liberty of life and action to God's children everywhere. Like all men we are here to do our duty, to bring us to the Free dom.

For those who have paid the supreme sacrifice let us pray—"Grant unto them eternal rest and may light perpetual shine upon them." May God comfort and bless those who mourn. For those still in the struggle we ask Divine help and protection and express the hope that the tyranny of war may soon be over past and our Boys return to home and loved ones in health and peace.

Boys! while overseas, have constantly in mind your Home. "That spot on earth presumably blest, a dearer, sweeter spot than all the rest." As you, think of your Home and home life, you will think of your friends, those loving personalities, who make both home and town so dear to you. It's fine to have a friend you can trust, but it is finer to have friends who can trust you. Our Blessed Lord said "And I have called you friends." Christ is your friend. Christ is the Friend of your friends. Friends exercise friendship. Here is something about

Friendship.
"Life is sweet just because of the friends we have made And the things which in common we Want to live on, not because of ourselves, But because of the people who care; It's giving and doing for somebody else, On all that life's splendour depends, And the joys of the world, when you've summed them all up, Are these in the keeping of Friends."

Back to thoughts about New Year. Of the best of the New Year's gifts there is nothing like the Gift of Remembrance. Whatever other gifts fail to reach you because of faulty transportation, or through act of the enemy, you may be sure of the Gift of Remembrance. You will find it a very satisfying gift if you share it—not if you hoard it. The New Year's gift of Remembrance is intertwined with Christmas. Whether you have the opportunity of making your Christmas Communion or not, be sure to remember in your prayers your home folk. If you do make your Christmas Communion then in that sweet and solemn moment pray.

And then for those our dearest and our best, By this prevailing presence we appeal, O fold them closer to thy mercy's breast;

From taunting mischief keep them white and clear And crown thy gifts with Grace to persevere."

The Gift of Remembrance is a blessed gift. It blesses alike those who remember and those who are remembered.

Back to thoughts of Christmas. What great gifts can stand you For the glad Christmas Day.

And the best told to him alone. And the best thought I can send you Is from him and not mine own.

And your name shall be remembered In the blessed presence there. Where remembrances are sacred And each memory holds a prayer And where loving thoughts shall leave

In a loving Father's care."

Now, as I say "au revoir," it may cheer you to know every Thursday

night at St. Luke's there is a service of intercession and you are remembered by name.

"Now the God of Peace, that

brought again from the dead our Lord

and Christ the herald angels sing,

"Glory to the newborn King."

The Christmas story is a work of art.

The artist gives us an event that is steeped in song. The skies are made to burst forth in a chorus that makes the vault of heaven ring, as if the earth and all the stars of the firmament vibrated in harmony and all creation resounded with the music of the spheres.

Christmas was anticipated with music as the faithful wended their pilgrimage journeys through the mountainous fastness of Judea and made the hills to resound with the echoing choruses of the songs of Zion.

Christmas is celebrated in song.

The muse has risen to his highest heights in doing justice to the inspiration that the event imparts, and Yuletide carols are almost unsurpassed in the hymody of the ages.

Nowhere does earth so blend with heaven as when men and angels sing in union:

"Joyful all ye nations rise,

Join the triumph of the skies."

The artist's conception appeals to our sense of beauty:

"Silent night! holy night!

All is calm, all is bright."

Clear skies, bright stars and the stillness of a world at rest; then a gentle and sublime melody floating out of the quiet and swelling to a mighty crescendo, while an awakening earth takes up the refrain, while "Glory streams down heaven afar" and "Love's pure light doth shine." Radiant beams from God's holy face, With the dawn of redescending grace."

The year 1944 is one of modernistic art; nights are dark with a darkness intensified by dense, rolling columns of smoke. V-bombs disturb the stratospheres in their lightning speed missions of death. The air is rent by roaring fortresses, while block busters with maddening din rock great cities upon their foundations. Blackened denizens of darkness lurk unheeding sharpened death, and rattling machine guns spit their deadly sparks in nation-girding circles, while "Earth is filled with farewells to the dying" and "Mourning for the dead."

On Christmas, 1944, the angels are under defiance to sing if they dare. Which chorus augers the best things for mankind? Which has the greatest claim upon human attention?

"And man at war with man hears not The love-song which they bring;

"O hush your noise ye men of strife,

And hear the angels sing."

CHRISTMAS

(William H. Irwin)

"Hark the herald angels sing,

Glory to the newborn King."

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earth and all the stars of the firmament

vibrated in harmony and all creation resounded with the music of the spheres.

Christmas was anticipated with music as the faithful wended their pilgrimage journeys through the mountainous fastness of Judea and made the hills to resound with the echoing choruses of the songs of Zion.

Christmas is celebrated in song.

The muse has risen to his highest heights in doing justice to the inspiration that the event imparts, and Yuletide carols are almost unsurpassed in the hymody of the ages.

Nowhere does earth so blend with heaven as when men and angels sing in union:

"Joyful all ye nations rise,

Join the triumph of the skies."

The artist's conception appeals to our sense of beauty:

"Silent night! holy night!

All is calm, all is bright."

Clear skies, bright stars and the stillness of a world at rest; then a gentle and sublime melody floating out of the quiet and swelling to a mighty crescendo, while an awakening earth takes up the refrain, while "Glory streams down heaven afar" and "Love's pure light doth shine." Radiant beams from God's holy face, With the dawn of redescending grace."

The year 1944 is one of modernistic art; nights are dark with a darkness intensified by dense, rolling columns of smoke.

V-bombs disturb the stratospheres in their lightning speed missions of death.

The air is rent by roaring fortresses, while block busters

with maddening din rock great cities upon their foundations.

Blackened denizens of darkness lurk unheeding sharpened death, and rattling machine guns spit their deadly sparks in nation-girding circles, while "Earth is filled with farewells to the dying" and "Mourning for the dead."

And man at war with man hears not The love-song which they bring;

"O hush your noise ye men of strife,

And hear the angels sing."

Mr. Yuris had the misfortune to have a thumb smashed on Monday while working in the mine.

Miss Ruth Anne Gregory celebrated her thirteenth birthday on Saturday with a party. The fourteen young guests enjoyed the evening playing games and dancing, after which an enjoyable luncheon was served.

Miss C. A. Emery, of Calgary, was a visitor here last Sunday.

Word was received by Mr. and Mrs.

Ulrich that their son, Pilot Officer

Charlie Ulrich, who had been station-

ed overseas, is coming home for Christmas. He recently helped sink an enemy submarine.

Mrs. J. Dudley was hostess to the cigarette fund-bridge club on Tuesday. Prize was won by Mrs. G. Cruck-

shank.

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Mrs.

Britain's War Effort

IT HAS BEEN APPARENT since the beginning of the war that the people of Britain have faced the danger, discomfort and privation which they have been called upon to endure, with courage and optimism. They have experienced to the full the "blood, sweat and tears" which Mr. Churchill promised in his famous speech, delivered at a time when Britain's future appeared far from bright, but there has never been any indication of defeatism. Britain has been under frequent air attack throughout the war, and added to this has suffered continued shortage of many items essential to comfort, including food, fuel and clothing. In addition there has been the blackout. In spite of this, the British people have played a leading part in building up the great structure of men and materials which has at last out-matched Germany's military might.

Details Were Not Revealed For security reasons, details of Britain's contribution to the Allied victory were not revealed until recently, when Mr. Brendan Bracken, the British Minister of Information, made them public in a White Paper entitled "Statistics Relating to the War Effort of the United Kingdom." In this paper it is stated that "the total war effort of the population of Britain is greater than that of any other belligerent," and there are many figures to prove the extent to which British resources, both human and material, have been mobilized. From a population of about 47,000,000, the armed forces have drawn 4,500,000 men and 500,000 women. On the industrial front the workers have turned out 70 per cent. of all the munitions produced by or made available to the British Empire. These included 102,000 airplanes, 4,500,000 tons of shipping, 25,000 tanks, and nearly 4,000,000 machine guns.

Much Money Has Been Required The money required to maintain this level of production has reached enormous proportions. Government expenditures, the White Paper states, have increased from four billions a year, at the outbreak of the war, to twenty-three billions. Carrying out this great undertaking has necessitated many financial sacrifices for the people of Britain both individually and collectively. Assets amounting to more than four billion dollars have been sold and the foreign debts reduced by nine billions in the past five years. During this same period exports on a commercial basis have been reduced by more than fifty per cent. Commenting on this aspect of Britain's war effort, Mr. Bracken wrote: "We have sacrificed most of our Victorian inheritance. What was the treasure of our grandfather has gone, and it has been well and gladly sacrificed." The people of Britain and of the Empire should take great pride in the facts revealed in this White Paper.

PATENTS

AN OFFER TO EVERY INVENTOR, List of Inventors and full information free. THE RUSSELL COMPANY Registered Patent Attorneys, 273 Bank Street, Ottawa, Canada.

Human Interest Stories

Are Ample Proof That Most Editors Have Kind Hearts

Editors do have hearts despite all assertions to the contrary by reporting gentlemen of the press. True, they cut and "kill" without compunction, but just let a good "human interest" story come along, and the milk of human kindness is discernible even to those who swear that nothing but black ink runs through an editor's veins. Picking at random some h. i. stories of the week:

The light at Eighth Avenue and 54th in the world's busiest city flashes three times from red to green before Patrolman Reilly gives the go-ahead signal. Not until a little white cat has drunk his fill of milk spilled from a 30-gallon can, and has retired to the sidewalk, lapping his paws, is traffic allowed to proceed. And the cat's health is excellent.

Another member of New York's feline family watching the procession of letters down a mail chute, and vainly trying to swat them as they pass, rates room in the papers. A lonesome pup, searching for his missing master at a busy New Orleans intersection for 48 hours, stands on his hind legs to view occupants of passing cars. His vigil earns him a two-column picture.

And somehow these little items, telling of kindness, simple amusement, and loyalty help make not only editors but the war news itself seem less formidable—Christian Science Monitor.

Might Be Original

Vancouver Man May Have Copy of First Canadian Newspaper

What may be the first newspaper printed in Canada was uncovered when Larry Wilson, proprietor of a Vancouver book shop, obtained a copy of the Quebec Gazette, published on Thursday, June 21, 1784.

Mr. Wilson found the ancient Gazette in a Vancouver auction room, noted the yellow appearance and the peculiar type faces and thought he had a treasure.

Because of the many forgeries which surround first editions, however, he immediately started an investigation to ascertain if his copy was an original or a forgery.

He has had correspondence with the Library of Congress at Washington, the Boston Public Library, the Public Archives of Canada, McGill University, the Public Library of Toronto, and the late Douglas C. MacMurtrie, noted historian of printing.

None of his sources could verify if the copy was authentic but some pointed out that facsimiles were published in 1864.

The paper is printed in English and French and agitated about a scheme which was afoot to tax "our American colonies."

Until 1867, Alaska was designated on maps as Russian America.

Keeping Dry



The rains of autumn fall to dampen the spirit or the person of this Canadian soldier who keeps dry—in no military manner—while hiking to the Canadian front in Holland, where the downpour is almost continuous. The scrounged umbrella comes in very handy here—the horn is for lighter moments.

Enjoys Good Time

Prince Minister Churchill Joins Sing-Song Aboard British Cruiser

Winston Churchill sang "Walsing Matilda" aboard a British cruiser during one of his visits in Normandy. The story is told by Lt. Peter Taylor, R.A.N.R., of Western Australia. Mr. Churchill was in the captain's cabin and using the cruiser as his headquarters when he was attracted to the wardroom by sounds of extreme merriment during a sing-song. He heard a number of officers referring to Lt. Taylor, who is a bright spark, as "Digger." Mr. Churchill, after asking the cruiser's captain if Digger was an authentic Australian, asked to be introduced to him. Then Mr. Churchill said, "I would like to hear you sing 'Walsing Matilda'." Lt. Taylor sang the song, with Mr. Churchill and other officers lustily joining in the chorus. "Mr. Churchill was grinning all round his cigar and looking like a real old British bulldog," Lt. Taylor said. "He said to me—that's the song the Australians sang entering Bardia. Those days we were all alone." I then somewhat cheekily replied: "Not alone. The Australians were always there." Winston just grinned and patted me on the back. Mr. Churchill then asked everyone to sing "Rule, Britannia," and he led the chorus."

The University of Paris was the model for Oxford and Cambridge.

Canadian wool must be marketed in better condition if it is to hold its own with other wools according to J. A. Telfer, in charge of sheep production for the Dominion Department of Agriculture. The chief trouble is dirtiness, which can be greatly reduced by a little care in handling.

Price Control And Rationing Information

Q—I was married last month, please tell me what to do about the name and address on my ration book.

A—Adviser your Local Ration Board of the name and address you are going to give them at the same time your maiden name and ration book number—be sure to change the name and address on your ration book to conform with your present status.

Q—I have been discharged from the Air Force and they did not give me my ration book. What do I get one?

A—We would advise you to get in touch with your Local Ration Board and your new ration book will be issued. It will be necessary to present either your discharge papers or a letter signed by the Commanding Officer, where you were discharged. Do not worry any time in getting your book, otherwise you will have to forfeit the coupons covering the period from the time of discharge to the time of application for a ration book.

Q—are canned sugar coupons still valid?

A—Yes, the first ten "F" canned sugar coupons are still valid but only until December 31. These coupons are included in ration book number 1. After the 1st of December, the book will be 1 and you may further use it until you may be destroyed after that date.

Q—I have given a one year subscription to a magazine as a Christmas gift for the past few years and have always paid \$1.00 for it. This year I paid \$1.50. Is this permitted?

A—The price of newspapers, magazines and periodicals are exempt from Prices Board regulations.

Please send your questions or your request for the pamphlet "Consumers' News" or the Blue Book in which you keep a record of your purchases, to the press office of this paper to the nearest War-time Prices and Trade Board office in your province.

Prevent Floods

Proposals Are Being Studied For Post-War Work

The prairie farm rehabilitation administration announced that measures to prevent spring flooding in Brandon, Portage la Prairie and Winnipeg areas of Manitoba along the Assiniboine river now are being studied for proposed post-war projects.

The proposed work would include construction of two reservoirs in Saskatchewan at Annie Lake and Lomond Lake, providing a capacity of 2,722,500,000 gallons of water. Larger reservoirs would have to be built northwest of Brandon at St. Lazare and near Shelburne in Manitoba with the St. Lazare dam some 60 feet in height.

The English, about 1658, came to the hitherto unknown Chinese herb, tea, and silver. They brought to that land of fog and cosy fire-side not only the genial custom of tea-drinking, but, also, by degrees, all the elaborate silver paraphernalia of a stately social ritual. First came the teapot closely followed by the tea-caddy, and tea-caddy spoons. About 1700, came the sugar-bowl (the genious bowl of old times), while about 1760 the tea-urn made its first appearance. About 1790, the complete tea-service was produced in all its silver beauty.

In 1742, a chemist discovered by accident that silver and copper could be mixed. From this discovery developed Sheffield plate, and silver, which had belonged exclusively to the wealthy, became possible for people of moderate means. Up to 1840, hand-made Sheffield plate of great beauty was produced in large quantities in England. In 1840, the discovery of electro-plating ended the day of the hand-made Sheffield.

A Few Drops

Up Each Nostril Quickly Relieve

Stuffiness of Catarrh

Specialized Medication Works Fast Right Where Trouble Is!

Soothing relief from stuffy, painful distress of acute catarrh comes fast as Va-tro-nol spreads through the nose, reduces swollen membranes—soothes irritation, relieves congestion, helps flush out cold-clogged nasal passages. Makes breathing easier—try it! Follow directions in package.

A Great Craft

First Guild Of Silversmiths Formed In England In 1180

The history of English silver goes back, to 1180, when the first Guild of Silversmiths was formed. In 1383 the word "sterling" was coined by Edward III, to denote articles made by the silversmiths of the 925 pure standard. The first guild was formed, with some emblem, each city having its own—e.g. London, the leopard; Scotland the crown. All Scotch silver bore the mark of the thistle; all Irish the figure of Hibernia.

The earliest English silver, was mostly church-plate, the work of craftsman monks, who fashioned lovingly the beautiful Communion vessels. Later, silver became secular and drinking-horns, tankards, beakers and christening mugs played their part in the life of the people. There was a strange fad, too, in early times for coconut shells and ostrich eggs mounted in elaborate silver designs. With the use of salt, the great and salt-dishes, set in the centre of the long board, to mark the graduation of rank above and below the salt. During the early centuries, forks being the only implements for eating, magnificent silver basins and ewers graced the feasts, being the giant finger-bowls of the time.

During the 14th century spoons came into favor, developing from crude wooden articles into elegant silver utensils. One development of these, the great apostle spoons, is the joy of collectors of today. About 1620, forks began to be used but not till the 16th century, did cutlery, as we use it now—knives, forks and spoons—come into general use. To Queen Anne we owe much of our table service of today.

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Use Franchise

Compulsory Voting Is Urged For Citizens Of Canada

Compulsory voting in Canada was urged at Toronto by National President Walter G. Attridge, Montreal, of the Junior Chamber of Commerce of Canada.

Necessity for "get out and vote" campaign is a "crime" in such a country as Canada, said Attridge, who described the Junior Chamber's drive with that objective.

The Canadian cities registered less than a 27 per cent. vote in municipal elections, he told the Young Men's Section of the Toronto Board of Trade.

NOT HIS RESPONSIBILITY

The wife of a recently married Aberdonian had successfully undergone an operation for appendicitis, a day or two after the operation, her husband was having a whisky with the doctor, who in a moment of forgetfulness mentioned that the operation should have taken place two or three years earlier.

The father-in-law received the bill.

Meat Contracts

British Food Minister States What Canada Will Supply

Food Minister J. J. Liewell told a press conference in London that arrangements were going forward for conclusion of contracts with Canada for supply of bacon, ham and beef in 1946. He did not elaborate.

During this year and 1945, the food minister told the House of Commons, Nov. 15, Canada will supply a minimum 50,000,000 pounds of beef each year and the United Kingdom would purchase a maximum of 112,000,000 pounds this year and 134,400,000 in 1945.

SMILE AWHILE

Cyril: "You may spurn me, but remember I shall not always be a cask at \$20 a week."

Marie: "That's just the trouble. You may lose your job at any time."

"This is a great country, Pat."

"And how's that?"

"The paper says you can buy a five dollar money order for six cents."

"My father has influenza all the time."

"Don't be know that whiskey is good for influenza?"

"Yes, that's why he has it all the time."

Male Strapholder: "Madame, you are standing on my foot."

Female Ditty: "I beg your pardon. I thought it belonged to the man sitting down."

Secretary: "Do you know what time I have to get up to have my bath?"

Office Manager: "Why not get here by nine and find out?"

"I am very worried about my son's health."

"What has he got?"

"A motorcyle."

"Did you hear about that delicate historian, Hangon, got last night?"

"Well, Edith found that looking at the clock and other family devices were of no avail, so she asked for some refreshments, and her mother sent in a dish of breakfast food."

Neighbor (sympathetically) — And I know how long these years must stand to you.

Deserted Wife—Yes, but I remember when he left just as if he stood at the door holding it open until six feet got into the house.

"Hey, Bill," yelled the electrician to those wires."

"O.K." said Bill. "I've got one."

"None."

"Good! I wasn't sure which was which. Don't touch the other!"

The tired-looking man sat facing the solicitor.

"And so you want a divorce from your wife?" said the lawyer.

"My relations pleasant, then?"

"Mine, are," answered the other warmly, "but hers are perfectly horrid."

Mr. Pester—That's a pretty woman that just passed us.

Mrs. Pester—H'm! She's wearing her last season's hat, her puffs don't match her hair, her waist hikes up in the back and her skirt sags on one side. Men never notice anything.

SOON WEAR OUT

For every 100 combat rifles that go overseas, 80 will have to be replaced within a year. For every hundred machine guns, the ratio is 85 annual replacements.

The most important mineral substances required in food are the salts of iron, iodine, phosphorus, calcium (lime), manganese, potassium, and soda.



Youngsters enjoy something hot for lunch at school and only the simplest equipment is needed for this type of school lunch plan. The children bring all their lunch from home and included is one dish to be heated. A cover or a prevent spills in the lunch box, and each child's jar is marked with his name. At recess time the jars are collected and placed in a pan of water on the stove. When the twelve o'clock bell rings the contents are piping hot. Popular with the children in the rural Manitoba school in which this picture was taken are cream soup, stew, baked beans and creamed vegetables with cheese.

Allied Leaders May Meet Again In Near Future

LONDON.—Diplomatic problems clamoring for swift solution drew Prime Minister Churchill and President Roosevelt—and possibly Marshal Stalin—close to another of their historic meetings.

At stake was the settlement of such immediate problems as the coordination of apparently diverging Allied policies in Europe and the necessity for speedily plans for the treatment of Germany after the war.

In view of the need for improving Anglo-American relations and since President Roosevelt will not be inaugurated for his fourth term until Jan. 20, the speculation in informed quarters favored a meeting before the end of the year.

Although diplomatic quarters speculated on the whereabouts of both Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill, censorship prohibited any mention of their movements.

Security also prevented naming of dates and places for such a conference. Among the possibilities were Great Britain, the Middle East, Canada and the United States.

The British press, meanwhile, argued that the meeting should be held in Great Britain. Weeks ago it launched a campaign to bring the Big Three together here. It contended the 70-year-old Churchill has done far more than his share of travelling, and that the others should come to him.

Problems facing the Big Three for immediate consideration included:

1. Germany—from all indications the Allies are far behind on their plans for dealing with post-war Germany. Co-ordination of policy for de-Nazifying Germany appeared to be one of the main points on the Big Three agenda.

2. One of the main subjects for discussion was the principal issue of the Atlantic Charter, conference unanimity between the Big Three in case of aggression by any of the great powers themselves.

3. Parallel policy in the liberated countries, in order to prevent crises similar to those in Greece and Italy.

4. Far East—an attempt probably by the United States and Great Britain to clarify further Russia's position after the collapse of Germany.

POST-WAR PLANS

Recommendation For The Long-Range Control Of Germany

WASHINGTON.—Allied officials in London now are drawing up recommendations for long-range control of Germany.

This was learned along with the fact that the question of economic treatment, which caused a cabinet row in Washington this fall, is being considered.

The agreement signed by representatives of the European advisory commission—the military occupation is still being reviewed in the various capitals. The American expectation, however, is that it will be approved because Britain, Russia and the United States sanctioned the plan point by point as it was being written.

This leaves the commission to go on to plans for final elimination of the Nazis, denazification of Germany, and controls to make it impossible for Berlin to build another war machine.

The only open question on the occupation plan is France, which did not take part in writing the agreement because she was not made a member of the commission until after it was completed.

However, Moscow reports indicate that Gen. De Gaulle went into detailed discussions with Premier Stalin on plans for Germany.

WIN ATTENTION

Many Inquiries Received For Canada's National Film Board Pictures

VANCOUVER.—Motion pictures being produced by Canada's national film board are attracting world-wide attention. John Grierson, head of the board, said in a speech to the board of trade here.

Enquiries have been received from the governments of Great Britain, the United States, Belgium, France and the U.S.S.R., Mr. Grierson said.

"Education has been so concentrated on the academic that it has forgotten its relation to the actual needs of the country," he said.

The board has approximately 170 travelling theatres on regular schedules playing in towns and villages, in schools and factories, working in conjunction with chambers of commerce, trades unions and industrial management.

General "Ike" Visits Canadians



Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower, supreme Allied commander in the European theatre, bends down to get a better view of demonstration by Canadian troops during a visit to their base in Holland. On the right is Lieut.-Gen. H. G. Crerar, commander of the Canadian troops.

Plans Made For Control Of Nazi War Industries

LONDON.—United States proposals for control of Germany were said by a reliable informant to call for "complete and ruthless" abolition of German war industries and the wiping out of Germany's aviation enterprises.

Other German industries would be controlled so completely that Germany could never again dominate European economy.

Ambassador John G. Winant was reported reliably to have presented the European advisory council two or more memoranda containing the American proposals as part of the Allies' plan to prevent Germany from ever again waging war. Mr. Winant was believed to have discussed the data with President Roosevelt and the state department during his recent visit to Washington.

The American were believed to have suggested that it should be made impossible for Germany's chemical industries to manufacture poison or similar weapons.

SECRET WEAPON

German Radio Says New V-Weapon Will Be Used

LONDON.—The German radio hinted at a new secret V-weapon—perhaps V-3—was being fired at Belgian cities.

The broadcast quoted "well informed circles in Berlin" in stating that "the projectiles fired at Antwerp and Liege are noticeably different from the flying bombs fired at London. They are said to be shorter and thicker and are thought to be a completely different weapon."

Berlin has hinted several times that V-3 was ready for use, and New York was mentioned as a possible target. The broadcast may be manufactured propaganda, or a search for information.

MASS MURDER

Sixteen Million Civilians Are Said To Have Been Murdered By Nazis

NEW YORK.—The Nazis and their allies have murdered more than 16,350,000 civilian men, women and children in occupied Europe, according to a tabulation of the editors of True Magazine.

The total, based on the editors' said, on lowest official estimates, includes 10,000,000 Russians, 5,000,000 Poles, 1,000,000 Jugoslavs, 145,000 Dutch, 83,000 Greeks, 60,000 Czechoslovaks, 50,000 French, 35,000 Belgians, 750 Norwegians and 75 Danes. It does not list 1,000,000 children of France who, according to Gen. Charles de Gaulle, starved to death under German occupation. What does the tabulation include? 300,000 Greeks who met a similar death.

NEW YORK.—Several trainloads of V-2 bombs were hit by Belgian-based Allied planes in a concentrated attack on the Netherlands railroads at Leyden, the BBC said.

ONLY ONE WAY

British Commander Gives His Views About Beating Jap Fleet

MELBOURNE.—Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, commander-in-chief of Britain's newly-created Pacific fleet, gave his views on the part his command will play in the Pacific.

In an interview after his arrival in Melbourne, he said:

"The country with the greatest sea power must win the war. We have that sea power. The Japanese are losing theirs."

Field Marshal Sir Bernard Montgomery told me that Germans between 20 and 25 are hopeless in their outlook and cannot be changed and the only thing to do is kill them. The Japanese, it appears, has the same idea, and the only thing to do is to sink it. This we shall surely do.

"But as the Japanese fleet goes back the job becomes more difficult. In the end we may find ourselves island-hopping."

PEOPLE MUST WAIT

Channel Islands Cannot Be Liberated Until Germany Is Defeated

LONDON.—Liberation of Britain's channel islands must wait perhaps until the end of the war while British troops fight elsewhere, it was reported.

They're a part of Britain's island of Guernsey, Jersey, Alderney and Sark, nestled a few miles off the Cherbourg peninsula—but their military importance is considered insufficient to divert a liberating force from the main task of invading Germany.

It is estimated the German garrison on the islands numbers about 15,000. To attack them with guns and bombs would mean casualties among the 65,000 Britons who remain there.

STICKING TOGETHER

London—The foreign ministers of Germany, Japan and Fascist Italy exchanged "fight-to-the-end" messages on the third anniversary of the tripartite military pact, the German radio reported.

SUPPLIES ASSURED

Germans Grant Safe Conduct To Relief Ships For Channel Islands

LONDON.—The Germans have granted safe conduct to relief ships carrying supplies to the German-occupied Channel Islands, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison said.

Between 60,000 and 70,000 persons on these British islands are short of food and medical supplies.

Occupied by the Germans in 1940, the islands were by-passed when the Allies invaded Europe.

Directing China's War Effort



This photo, showing Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek with his troops, is one of the most recent of the man who has directed the destinies of China for the past 15 years. Headlines tell of the marshal's appointment of T. V. Soong as premier of China, an appointment which leaves the marshal free to devote all his efforts to war tasks. Furthermore, it is noted that Soong, brother of Mme. Chiang, is moderate towards China's Communists with whom Chiang has been at loggerheads. This photo is from Time's "Inside China".

British Tommies On Their Way To Venlo Front



British infantrymen halt for a rest, a chat and a smoke on their way to an advanced position with the 2nd British Army near Venlo.

New Appointment



—Canadian Army Overseas photo.

Major General Charles Philip Fenwick, M.C., 53, who has been appointed as Director General of Medical Services and promoted from the rank of brigadier. General Fenwick has been serving overseas as Deputy Director of Medical Services and head of the Canadian Army medical unit in North-West Europe.

He was born in St. John's, Newfoundland, and educated at the University of Toronto and the University of London, England. Mrs. Fenwick resides at 230 Rosedale Heights, Toronto.

Pacific Fleets May Be Able To Shorten War

CANBERRA.—A concentration of fleets in the Pacific will have a considerable effect in shortening the war against Japan, in the opinion of Adm. Sir Bruce Fraser, commander of Britain's newly-formed Pacific fleet.

Sir Bruce, who came to the Australian capital after seeing Prime Minister Curtin in hospital in Melbourne, indicated in an interview at Melbourne that Britain's contribution in the war against the Japanese would best be confined to sea and air support.

Sir Bruce will see Adm. Chester Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the United States Pacific fleet.

Meanwhile, Vice-Admiral C. S. Daniel, Admiral Fraser's representative in Melbourne, said Australia's main contribution to the fleet would be dock and depot facilities. He said capital works available for use by the fleet included a \$26,000,000 grain dock at Sydney and a dry dock at the Brisbane river.

These were built by the Allied works council for the Royal Australian Navy and the United States forces in the south-west Pacific.

TERM IS EXPIRING

Ottawa—It will be a family Christmas at Rideau hall this year.

The government and the Canadian forces are planning a quiet celebration for what will probably be their last Christmas in Canada, since the governor-general's term of office expires next April.

Buy War Savings Stamps regularly.

Predicts A New Government For Polish People

MOSCOW.—Boleslaw Bierut, peasant-born president of the Polish national council, predicted that the new year would be ushered in by the formation of a provisional government of Poland dedicated to satisfying the land hunger of 8,000,000 landless peasants.

(The Soviet government has sponsored the development of Bierut's council with its seat at Lublin, Poland, and recent Moscow despatches have indicated that a move to make it the provisional government of Poland was under way. Such a development probably would end all chance of an agreement between Lublin and the Polish government in London.)

Bierut said the construction of the provisional government would be the major task before the 120 deputies at the next session of the national council.

"We hope that western Poland will be freed from the Germans in the next few months," he said.

Asked whether he saw any possibility of the Poles of the London government resuming relations with Russia, broken since 1915, Bierut replied:

"They hate the Soviet Union because they represent the Polish landowners and nobility under Raczkiewicz (Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, president of the London regime), who bases his authority on the 1933 constitution which set up a dictatorship. This nobility once possessed large estates in Soviet territory of the Ukraine. They wish to get back these lands and therefore will intrigue constantly for a future war against the Soviet Union."

LONDON.—Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, president of the Polish Republic, appointed an acting deputy premier and three cabinet ministers inside Poland as the trouble-torn government here sought from the homeland's underground army a new guide on policy to strengthen its shaky standing.

A communiqué issued by the Polish government said the deputy premier and three cabinet ministers, whose names were not disclosed because of security, already were performing their duties, and that all were well-known members of the underground movement.

The ministers represent three main parties which the council of national unity in Poland—peasant, national and socialist.

ANOTHER MILESTONE

Fifth War Year Shows Little Sign Of German Collapse

LONDON.—History's bloodiest and costliest conflict edged past a new milestone to become a year longer than the First Great War, and Germany showed few signs of such an internal collapse as brought about its defeat in 1918.

This war was five years, 14 weeks and two days old on December 11.

The First Great War ended in four years, 14 weeks and two days—six hours after the armistice terms were signed.

Marshal Foch's railroad carriage at 5 a.m. Nov. 11, 1918 in Compiegne forest.

Tendency to discount the possibility of a home-front revolt was strengthened by British ministry of economic warfare reports generally showing that the average German family is better fed and better clothed now than it was in 1918.

ROCKET RAIDS

Allies To Concentrate On German Military Targets

LONDON.—The Allies are determined to concentrate on bombing German military targets despite Nazi rocket raids on England, Foreign Secretary Eden said.

He made this clear after one member of the House of Commons called on Prime Minister Churchill to give the Nazis the same warning about V-weapon attacks that he gave in 1942 when he threatened retaliation if the Germans used gas.

"The principle on which our targets in Germany are selected is that of destroying as quickly as possible Germany's power to wage war," said Mr. Eden.

BUTTER STOCKS LOW

OTTAWA.—Stocks of creamery butter in Canada on Dec. 1 totalled 52,298,446 pounds compared with 63,857,537 pounds on Nov. 1, a decrease of more than 11,600,000 pounds, the Dominion bureau of statistics reported.



May Fortune Smile Upon You Through Your Remaining Years—
This is the Christmas Wish of

Grand Union Hotel

L. "Sonny" Richards, Manager
COLEMAN ALBERTA



Heartiest Greetings

We wish you a Merry Christmas, right heartily:
Lots of friends to give you greeting;
A season filled with blessings

West Canadian Collieries Ltd.

BLAIRMORE ALBERTA



If it's "Lethbridge" it's a Sparkling Yuletide Thought



Manufactured by
Sicks' Lethbridge Breweries Limited



CHRISTMAS IN TRUTH

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The angels strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man at war with man bears not
The words of peace they bring—
O listen now, ye men of strife,
And let the message bring.

For lo, the days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with ever-circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When the new heaven and earth shall
own—

The Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world send back the
song Which now the angels sing.

The people are heart sick of the
tragedy, suffering, death, destruction
and the futility of war.

The strife for place and power
transcends for the moment the determination
of those who would have justice and a square deal for all be
the guiding rule.

But this will come, and pray God
the day be not too far distant, when
mankind shall live in a world of progress,
construction and development of peaceful pursuits and the elevating
of things spiritual in the individual and nation.—Ex.

—V.W.

APPLES FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA FILL 10,000 CARS

Advice from Vancouver says that the
biggest fruit crop in the Okanagan
Valley history have been harvested,
and that more than 10,000 cars of apples
have rolled out to domestic and overseas markets. Shipments are the
heaviest in three years, and expected to
reach an all-time peak.

—V.W.

Jerry: "Anything nice for tea tonight, dear?"
She: "Oh, yes, there's sponge cake.
I sponged the eggs from Martin Kubik, the flour from Thompson's and
the milk from the dairy."

—V.W.

Murphy: "Have ye seen Pat lately?"

O'Brien: "Faith, yes. I thought I
saw him on the other side of the road
yesterday, and he thought he saw me;
but, begorra, when we got up to one
another it was neither of us."

—V.W.

Doctor: "And did ye take your
husband's temperature as I told you?"

"Yes, doctor. I borrowed a barometer
and placed it on his chest. It said
'very dry,' so I bought him a quart of
beer and he went out and made two
touchdowns."

—V.W.

One of the GI's with a row of ribbons
on his chest was listening to the
radio when he heard the announcer
say: "All of our chewing gum is going
to the boys overseas."

The returned veteran remarked:
"Now, I gotta go back for gum."

—V.W.

Mother: "Johnnie, dear, I was hoping
you would be unselfish enough to
give your little sister the large piece
of candy. Why, even that old hen will
give all the nice dainties to her
little chicks and take only a tiny one
once in a while for herself."

Johnnie (after watching the old hen
for a while): "Well, mom, I'd do the
same thing if it was worms."

—V.W.

Why Jim Changed Jobs
"You must, love, honor and obey
your husband," droned the parson,
"and follow him wherever he goes."

The wife looked aghast: "Fancy!"
she exclaimed, "and Jim a deep-sea
diver."

—V.W.

"Nearly a generation ago my head
was grazed at the second battle of
Ypres."

The little boy looked thoughtfully at
the old man's head: "There isn't
much grazing there now, is there,
grandpa?"

—V.W.

Student: "Professor, which do women
prefer, men who give in to them
or the other kind?"

Psychologist: "What other kind?"

—V.W.

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Wishing the People of the Crows' Nest Pass and District the Compliments of the Season

BLAIRMORE BARBERS

Hartley Upham Sam Scott Frank Wislet

Heartiest Greetings of the Festive Season to our Numerous Friends in The Pass

BLAIRMORE PHARMACY

G. Steeves, Prop. — Phone 110
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

Wishing One and All
"A MERRY CHRISTMAS"

SIRETT & DAUGHTER
Painters and Paperhangers
"The Firm with a Reputation"
BELLEVUE ALBERTA

Heartiest Greetings of the Season to our Many Friends and Patrons

Central Meat Market

Venc. Krivsky, Proprietor. Phone 294
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS
and a Happy New Year
to all Citizens of the Crows' Nest Pass
and SPECIAL GREETINGS to all noble lads who
have gone from our midst to fight in the Cause
of Freedom on land, in the air or on sea.



E. O. DUKE, M.L.A.
Plincher Creek - Crows' Nest Constituency
Hillcrest, Alberta



Sincere Greetings

and all
Good Wishes for Christmas
and a
Bright and Prosperous New Year



McGillivray Creek Coal & Coke Co., Ltd.

and

International Coal & Coke Co. Limited

Coleman - Alberta

THE CHRISTMAS ANSWER

Christmas in the middle of war is one of the greatest paradoxes of all time. There are stories in this war, and in the last, which tell of fighting being stopped and exchanges made between the opposing armies. In some cases management, often for the only time during the year, becomes considerate of the employees. Families not on speaking terms with each other get together on the common meeting ground of Christmas.

— Thank God we can still do that. Thank God Christmas still creates that response in the hearts of so many people. But if we continue to abuse the spirit of Christmas for 364 days in the year then how much longer will December 25th mean anything to us?

Christmas, this year, will be celebrated for most of us against the background of the recent crisis in Ottawa and of what is happening in the liberated countries of Europe. To this writer, the message of Christmas has very much to do with these two issues. And it is not just wishing that the people of Europe could get as good a Christmas dinner as most of us hope to. It is all this, but much more.

In Europe they are faced with a great choice. We in Canada have the same choice to make, too, but we can still have a certain leeway in which to make sure that the right decision is made. The choice takes a political form, but is actually a moral and spiritual one. It is, very simply, what way of life is to get control? Is it to be a reshaped form of fascist dictatorship of the right, a communist dictatorship of the left, or is it to be a much more virile form of militant Christian Democracy than has ever been tried before.

There is no middle way any more. It is the right or the left or the God-inspired alternative that comes from above. You live out the Christmas message and you have it.

Why aren't we doing this now? The answer is simple. Because we have forgotten the two ingredients of the Christmas message which gives it life and fire. First that human nature can be changed and in that change lies the only permanent answer, and secondly that there is such a thing as Divine guidance which is available to people all day and all the time. Joseph and Mary knew this all right. The Acts of the Apostles are full of evidences of the Divine directing power in ordinary men's lives. Most of us, too, can look back and put our finger on times when we felt that sense of guidance. Why can't that become a reality for every day?

Unless the Christian forces of Europe recapture the reality of these truths they will most certainly go under. What answer have we in Canada? The issues may not be so clear-cut yet, but the future depends just as much on the choice we make today.

There is a line by us unseen
That crosses every path.
There is a line that comes between
God's mercy and His wrath.

Mrs. Mary Jane Pearson, resident of Fernie as early as 1900, passed away in Vancouver on December 8th, aged 91. She is survived by two sons and two daughters, eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren, all under 70.

THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

appreciate the help and co-operation
of the Citizens of Blairmore,
and
extend to them the Season's Greetings.

MAYOR E. WILLIAMS

A Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year.

THE BLAIRMORE BUZZ

A recent edition of the Blairmore Buzz, published by the boys overseas, asks "What on earth is this edition for?"

It is with grave misgivings that we go to press this week after being sued for libel by one Lig Writer Morton for the publication of the poem "The Frustrated Wolf." Copy of same may be obtained by writing to the office of the Blairmore Buzz, Deck W, and guess what the W is for. The one condition on which he withdrew his charge was that we publish a short poem of his that he dashed off in a moment of frustration. Upon person interview, and for a slight fee of twopence bit, the wolf, pardon us—Morton—will sing same in either baritone or tenor:

"Won't you tell me when
The Blairmore is going home,
Sunday, Monday or ever?
I'm not satisfied
To stay here on this side
Till Sunday, Monday or always?"

At this point all the girls can shout, scream and finally swoon. Mort's as good as Sinatra.

A Little Learning, by C. G. Brock:
Absolute knowledge have I none,
But the MO's aunt's washerwoman's
sister's son.

Heard a rating on the street
Say to a soldier in a jeep
That he had a letter just last week
Written in the finest Greek
From a Chinese coolie in Timbuctoo
Who said the negroes in Cuba knew
Of a ship refitting in a Texas town
Who got it straight from a circus
clown

That a man in Kitchener heard the news
From a gang of South American Jews
About a man on the telephone
Who knew when the Blairmore was going home.

Tiffy's new definition of Canada:
"Long, long ago, and very far away."
No one could say who the author was, but Canadians, irked by government liquor restrictions last week, were reciting a new poem. We think it is quite the thing. Carry on, Canada:

Sing a song of sixpence,
A bottle full of rye—
Six and twenty ounces
For a month's supply.
When the war is over
We'll all begin to sing:
"Now we've finished Hitler,
Where's Mackenzie King?"

NEW CHAIN LETTER

This rather different chain letter is going the rounds just now:

"Dear Friend: This chain was started in Reno with the hope of bringing happiness to weary housewives. Unlike most chains, this does not cost any money. Simply send a copy of this letter to five female friends, then bundle up your husband and send him to the woman whose name heads the list. When your name works to the top, you will in turn receive 1,176 tall, dark and handsome men. Have faith—don't break the chain. One woman broke the chain and got her husband back.

"What can I do for my country?" is the spirit which brings victory. "What can I do for my country for?" is the spirit which turns victory into defeat.

Wishing Everybody
The Compliments of the Season

UNION CLEANERS
Cleansing - Pressing - Tailoring
Phone 28

ALBERTA

Each Day Reminds us that to You belongs the
Thanks for our Merry Christmas

KUBIK'S
Food Store
Groceries, Fruits and Meats
Clothing Store
Ladies' and Men's Furnishings
Phone 34

BLAIRMORE, ALBERTA

With Hearty Good Wishes for The Yuletide
and Happiness in the New Year

Red Trail Motors

R. Fumagalli, Prop.
General Garage

Blairmore, Alberta

To the People of the Crows' Nest Pass and
District, We Extend Hearty
Season's Greetings

Kerr Bros.

GENERAL MERCHANTS

Phone 12m BELLEVUE, Alberta

A Very Merry Christmas

and a

Bright and Prosperous New Year

The Blairmore Hardware Co.

BLAIRMORE

ALBERTA



We extend to you Friendly Greetings for
Christmas and Wish You Joy and
Prosperity in the New Year

Hotel Royal

"MODERN - COMFORT - LOW COST"

Right in the Heart of the City

Corner 2nd St. W. and 8th Ave.

C. B. BARRELL, Manager CALGARY, ALBERTA



To the People of The Pass and outlying district,
we wish to extend heartiest wishes for
Christmas and the New Year.

Bellevue Inn

T. H. Duncan, Prop.
BELLEVUE ALBERTA

Give

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES

For Gifts!

Space Donated By

THE BREWING INDUSTRY OF ALBERTA



On Earth Peace to Men of Good Will

With the advent of Christmas this year, these words hold for us an added significance: "Peace to men of good will!"

WE Canadians, whether we fight in the factory or on the farm—in industry or in the armed services, wish peace on earth to men of good will the world

over. We are fighting that the spirit of Christmas shall endure. And we rejoice that this Christmas brings with it the definite promise of freedom for all mankind.

THE HOUSE OF SEAGRAM



Natal Theatre

NATAL, B. C.

Big Christmas Special

THE PICTURE EVERYONE SHOULD SEE

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's Greatest Triumph

"An American Romance"

with BRIAN DONLEVY
IN GLORIOUS TECHNICOLOR

playing -

Saturday, Monday and Tuesday

Dec. 23 - 25 - 26

This is one of the Biggest Pictures to come out in the last 10 years. Don't fail to see this Masterpiece.

SHOW TIMES: Saturday Matinee at 1.30 p.m.

Saturday Evening—2 Shows—7 p.m. and 9.15 p.m.

Monday and Tuesday at 7.30 p.m.

Also Cartoon -

PLEASE NOTE—

This picture will play no other theatre in The Pass

Coming Dec. 30 - Jan. 2

Katherine HEPBURN, Walter HUSTON and Turhan BEY, in M.G.M.'s

"DRAGON SEED"



WATSON PORTER

has been appointed chairman of the broadcasts in CBC's national farm radio forum, which commenced October 30, with programmes heard at 9.30 p.m. in CBC's midwestern region. Mr. Porter is widely known as editor of The Farmers Advocate and Home Magazine, and as secretary of the Ontario conservation and reforestation association, which he helped to organize.

Most of our dreams will never come true unless we wake up.

Nothing is so tiring as selfishness, nor so tiresome to others.

Sir Alfred B. Morin, lawyer and one time leader of the legislative council of Newfoundland, died in Toronto on Monday, aged 87.

A resident of Fernie for the past forty-six years, Felice Antonio Misco, passed away in Fernie last week at the ripe age of ninety.

The death occurred at Macleod on Sunday of Dr. George Sidney Mills, dentist, aged 69.

Mrs. Maltman, of High River, celebrated her 82nd birthday on December 7th.

"V"

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

PLAY SAFE!
GUARD PRECIOUS SIGHT
WITH
EDISON MAZDA LAMPS

CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC CO. LIMITED



"Pepsi-Cola" is the registered trade mark in Canada of Pepsi-Cola Company of Canada, Limited

BOTTLED BY
M. SARTORIS - BLAIRMORE, ALTA.
Under special appointment

BREAD is Dominion's
Best and Cheapest Source
of Energy



CANADIANS are fortunate that bread—so easy and economical to buy—plays such a large part in keeping them well, strong and energetic.

Bread—the wholesome, nourishing loaf made by your baker—supplies one-quarter of the food energy of the Dominion.

Bread supplies valuable carbohydrates. Bread releases its energy quickly, supplies it for hours. And, with its modern milk content, bread supplies important protein for the building and repair of muscular energy.

Keep vital . . . fit for life's emergencies—
 eat more bread!

YOUR BAKER'S SKILL, scientific equipment—and the finest ingredients—give you a loaf unsurpassed in wholesomeness and delicious flavor.

MEADE'S BAKING SERVICE
Phone 711w BELLEVUE Alberta

WORLD HAPPENINGS
BRIEFLY TOLD

Since the war began the army has requisitioned more than 200,000 houses in Britain.

H. W. Healy, pioneer of radio and television, died in Mansfield, England, after a short illness.

Canada grew 608,000 tons of sugar beets this year, 28 per cent. over the 475,300 tons 1943 crop.

Air raid casualties in Manchester since the war began were 559 persons killed and 1,778 injured.

A block of 12 penny black Canadian stamps issued in 1951 brought \$146 (about \$650) at an auction.

It can be disclosed now that aircraft which dropped jets and深弹 in Normandy on D-Day were guns in a book written by an ex-Scotland Yard man.

A fund has been launched to restore the ancient Church of St. Julian, Norwich, Norfolk, destroyed by German action two years ago. Mother Julian, a great English saint, lived 40 years in a cell in this church.

Canada's external trade, excluding gold, was valued at \$478,500,000 in October, compared with \$425,795,000 in the corresponding month of last year, an increase of 12.4 per cent. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reported.

Waste Paper

Paper Salvage Is Needed Now More Than Ever

"Now more than ever before, the importance of waste paper in the work it can do at the front, makes it necessary to keep a large supply of it going through the mills."

There was a statement of an official of the National Salvage Division in Ottawa when interviewed recently.

"Papers in your attic or cellar, thrown into the garbage can, burnt or in some other way destroyed, is of no value to Canada's armed forces," he said. "Paper turned in local salvage drives, however, can play a big part in the packaging of vital supplies."

"Every scrap of paper that is not gunned or waxed, dirty or wet, is wanted. Newspapers, letters, paper board, cereal boxes, posters, tickets, envelopes; in short every bit of paper, lingering unnecessarily in homes, offices and other buildings is needed," the official pointed out.

"Many people ask why the paper has to be tied in bundles," said the official. "The answer is simple. It's easier to handle." Speed in war time is the essential factor, and the sooner the waste paper can be sent to the mills, the sooner it can be made into cartons and other battle necessities."

A USEFUL PRODUCT

Castor oil, the production of which has reached a high level in Brazil, has several advantages over other oils. It is particularly suitable for aircraft engines in view of its very low freezing point, its adhesiveness and its great resistance to heat. In addition, its percentage of benzene and its solubility in gasoline or benzene are both very low.

REAL LIVESAVERS

Birds and monkeys save the lives of soldiers lost in the jungles. By watching what these creatures eat, men learn what berries and fruits are good to eat and which are poisonous.

2000

LIFE'S LIKE THAT

Inspects Propulsion Unit Of V-2



Bruce L. Snell, of Orillia, Ont., is peering inside the propulsion unit of a V-2 rocket bomb that landed somewhere in the south of England recently. The jets that drive the rocket are located in this part of the projectile. Some observers describe the rocket bomb as "resembling a light post. So far no one in Britain has seen a complete one."

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON
DECEMBER 24

THE GROUND OF UNIVERSAL JOY

Golden text: Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people. Luke 2:10. 2:8-12; Hebrews 1:1-4; 1 John 1:1-4. Devotional Reading: Isaiah 55:1-13.

Explanation and Comments

Tidings of Great Joy for All People. Luke 2:8-12. In obedience to a decree of Caesar Augustus, that all should be enrolled "each in his own city." Mary and Joseph, the framer of Bethlehem, a distance of about 80 miles, because Bethlehem, "the city of David," was the home of their ancestor. "There Jesus was born and there he grew up, for there was no room in the inn."

"I am grateful that he was born a little child and grew into manhood that he gathered experience as we do, and gained knowledge of our life by living it, sharing our common human habitation, our human joys and human pains," (Richard Roberts).

Everyone knows the beautiful story of the shepherds and the angels, and the tidings of great joy that it is to be born in this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the King.

Jesus is Son of God Supersedes All Easter Revelations, Hebrews 1:1-4. The object of the Epistle to the Hebrews is thus given in the One Volume Commentary: "The Christians are an example in days of falling away from their faith and apostasizing altogether. The Hebrews are discouraged to almost the extent that they are about to give up the gospel. How can the gospel offer any thing like compensation for what they have lost in being cast out of the church?"

Millions of Europeans have not been able to buy clothes or shoes since 1940 and almost as many have died from exposure due to lack of clothing as from starvation.

Soap shortages have made cleanliness "virtually impossible" with a resultant jump of lice-borne diseases such as typhus which has increased almost 700 per cent. over pre-war figures.

The "greatest migration of modern times" will be involved in returning more than 20,000,000 men, women and children to their homes, many of whom sold possessions are "the clothes on their backs."

Nearly 50 places in England bear the name "Sutton" either alone or in combination with others.

Show Keen Interest

People In Scotland Ask Many Questions About Canada

"To what extent is fish glue being manufactured in Canada?" "How are the thousands islands governed?" "If my daughter went to Canada, would she be sure of getting a job?" These are typical questions from others of like age who were put to Sgt. Anito Polybank, C.W.A.C., of Victoria, B.C., by citizens of Edinburgh recently at an exhibition on the Canadian War Effort, which was held in Edinburgh in conjunction with an Allied Nations' War Exhibit. Sgt. Polybank was sent from London as the only C.W.A.C. representative at the exhibition. Although some of the questions put to him by citizens of Scotland were put to him by citizens of Scotland, he gathered experience as we do, and gained knowledge of our life by living it, sharing our common human habitation, our human joys and human pains" (Richard Roberts).

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THIS CURIOUS WORLD

By William Ferguson



MOUNTAIN GOAT PARENTS
PUSH THEIR YOUNGSTERS OVER CLIFFS, IN ORDER TO TEACH THEM THE ART OF MAKING SAFE LANDINGS.

ROTING COPS

IF YOU HAVE AN "IDOC" LET ME SEE IT.

COPIE 1941 BY SEA SERVICE, INC.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

11-17

YOU CAN WALK THE NARROW PATH, BUT IT'S BROAD-MINDED! SAYS MRS. EVELYN VICAR, ANGONIA, CONNECTICUT.

DALLAS, TEXAS,

ON MAY 8, 1942,

TWO-MILLION-DOLLAR

AERIAL BOMBING . . . FROM HAIR!

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11-1

OUR CHRISTMAS STORY.

"FINDERS KEEPERS"

By VIOLET MOSS

McClure Newspaper Syndicate

Ben turned his coat collar up against the biting winter wind and stared moodily into the toy store window. It looked so bright, so cheerful in there, the many-colored playthings strewn in studied disorder where they might tempt the last minute Christmas shopper. In the centre of the display, gleaming brightly, stood the red fire engine.

Ben remembered how, when they'd passed this store last week, the boy had stopped; his eyes bright, his young voice shrill with excitement. He'd said, "Look, Daddy, Mummy, lookit the engine! It's got a bell, just like real ones! It goes, 't's swell! That has been all no demandin' no pleading. The boy knew better than to ask for anything so costly. The poverty of this last year, caused by Ben's illness, was about all his youthful memory could hold. The easier days that had been before were forgotten. He knew only disappointment and lack. And that was all wrong.

Ben's eyes were stinging, but not because of the cold. Suddenly he felt so inadequate, so frustrated. This was the most important season of the year for children—it should somehow be made especially festive. But, without money? His long sickness had eaten their savings so greatly and steadily that he had soon become necessary for Nan to take part-time work. Oh, they'd been gone hungry, but for months he had lain helpless, waiting until the doctors pronounced him once more fit to work. Of course that was all in the past. Things would be different after the first of the year when he began his new job. It was a good job, too—assistant foreman at the mill. Sure; but tomorrow would be Christmas, and about that and all it should mean to his son he could do nothing.

Turning almost savagely away from the window, he walked down the street to the General Department Store. He might as well, he thought, buy a meager holiday shopping. A few handkerchiefs for Nan, a cheap game for the boy. Oh, well, be thankful for regained health and a brighter future.

Once in the store, his face burning in the unaccustomed warmth, he hesitated for a moment before plunging into the swarming crowd around the handkerchief counter. Searching for an opening, his glance fell upon something dark on the floor. A change purse! Ben leaned forward, snatched it up and walked quickly, looking neither to right nor left, towards a telephone booth on the side of the store. He entered, slamming the door shut and, breathing hard, fumbled with the purse. Eight dollars! Like an answer to his prayers, he had eight dollars in his shaking hand. Enough to take care of this Christmas in the grand manner. That red fire engine, something wildly luxurious like perfume for Nan. A fat turkey. This was great, this was stupendous.

Well, what was he waiting for? He should go out right now, do his shopping, hurry home jubilantly laden with packages. But still he stood motionless, his eyes fast on the purse, so worn. It didn't belong to someone wealthy. It looked as if it only a few dollars, a few hundred less weepers. He stayed in the stuffy booth for fully ten minutes, fighting a battle with himself. When he finally emerged, his footstep were slow and they were headed for the Lost and Found Department.

At the desk, Ben numbly handed the purse to the clerk, vaguely heard him say, "Oh, thank you, sir! The party who lost this has already inquired. You're making somebody very happy by returning it."

Yeah, that was swell. He was making somebody happy—but not his family, his loved ones. Yet, at the clerk's hearty, "Merry Christmas to you," a surge of gladness swept over him, a feeling almost of triumph.

Absent-mindedly he left the store, walked about aimlessly for an hour, then remembered he hadn't done his shopping. Running into the nearest shop, he chose from the least expensive gift items.

When he arrived home, awkwardly hiding the packages under his coat, the boy had fallen asleep, and Ben was glad. Somehow he couldn't stand that small pathetic face, those expectant eyes, tonight. He slipped his gifts under a chair, ate dinner with Nan quietly and went to bed.

And then it was morning, and someone was tugging at his leg. It was the boy. "Merry Christmas,

SELECTED RECIPES

CHOCOLATE TOF

2 cups milk
2 tablespoons corn starch
1/2 cup sugar
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon vanilla
1/4 cup unsweetened chocolate
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup milk
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
Line a 9-inch pie plate with pie paste, cut out a circle, and bake in a hot oven, 425 degrees F. for 10 minutes. Remove from the oven only long enough to pour in filling.
Filling: Heat milk. Mix the corn starch, sugar and salt and blend into the beaten eggs. Add hot milk gradually, stirring until smooth, and boil. Mix chocolate in two dozen broken pieces in a double boiler. Add sugar and butter. Add milk slowly, 1 tablespoon at a time, blending smooth after each addition. Remove from heat, cool slightly, and vanilla. Pour filling evenly over the cooled filling. Yield: One 9-inch pie.

SEVEN IS MAXIMUM

Seven is the maximum number of eclipses that can occur in one year, five of the sun and two of the moon, or four of the sun and three of the moon.

Miniature Radios

Used in Holland For Listening To
Allied Broadcasts

Dutch patriot workers have developed a pocket-size radio receiving set made to German specifications during the occupation of the Netherlands and used them to listen to Allied broadcasts. The existence of the tiny set was disclosed by a Hollander who approached British tank troops about to go into action some place in Holland. The man, who had been a laboratory worker in a radio factory, asked a correspondent if he would like to listen to the news. He then held out a pocket watch that immediately began to vibrate with the confident tone of a BBC announcer. It was attached to a three-tube radio set packed into a small German-issued field dressing box with a Red Cross on the lid. The power came either from a battery or a hand-worked dynamo—also pocket-sized. The set was one of many that had been built as experiments. Brandon Sun.

Clamp Down
Germany Will Not Be Able To
Experiment On Weapons After
The War
Prime Minister Churchill informed the House of Commons that the Allies were making plans to see that Germany could not carry out any secret experiments to develop long-range weapons after the war.
"We have a lot of regular people on the job and we have our American and Allied friends, he told a member who raised the question.

Mr. Churchill said he could not disclose American and British casualties in the war against Japan at the present time as this information would next in Quebec.

Thought To Remember
Flowers leave part of their fragrance in the hand that bestows them.

—Chinese Proverb

The Guide Post
Small kindnesses, small courtesies, small considerations, habitually practised in our social intercourse, give a greater charm to the character and the display of great talents and accomplishments.

Buy and Buy
The real business life of Canada is determined by the people walking into stores and buying goods.

Buy and Buy
Buy and buy for proper form and do it now.

26 Babies
On November 17th, these two headlings appeared alongside each other in the Toronto Telegram, "Greatest single air assault opened winter offensive", "Modern stork express safely transports 26 babies from Quebec City to Chicoutimi". Fairly raining babies what next in Quebec.

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Thought To Remember
Flowers leave part of their fragrance in the hand that bestows them.

—Chinese Proverb

The Guide Post
Small kindnesses, small courtesies, small considerations, habitually practised in our social intercourse, give a greater charm to the character and the display of great talents and accomplishments.

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Mince Pies Prohibited in Days of the Puritans

THE Puritans had had many enemies. The Puritans would have none of it, and even in the Eighteenth century it was a forbidden delicacy to a large number of clergymen. During the Commonwealth the institution of Christmas festivals was forbidden.

In 1644 parliament passed an act ordering all citizens to observe Christ mass as a solemn fast, to be spent in silent abstinence for penitence. Private banquets and riotous living were punished. This order remained in force for 12 years.

The authorities in several towns tried to reduce Christmas day to the level of other days. In Canterbury by order of the mayor, it was proclaimed that "Christmas day and all other superstitious festivals should be put down."

People who attended service in the cathedral were mobbed. The inhabitants formed themselves into two parties, and feeling in the matter frequently resulted in the exchange of blows.

In 1652 it was proclaimed that "no observation shall be had of the five and twentieth day of December, commonly called Christmas day, nor any solemnity used or exercised in church."

This order was enforced by soldiers. Ovens and larders were searched, and where seasonal delicacies or decorations were found they were carried off and destroyed. A changed attitude toward the Puritan dislike of Christmas festivals came with the restoration of King Charles.



R. A. (BOB) BRYDEN

who started his CBC career as junior news editor in Toronto two years ago last September, has been transferred to Montreal to take over the position of senior English news editor. He replaces Edward Dix, who will be connected with the news broadcasts of CBC's new international service in Montreal.

To wind up the festive season, the Blairstown Elks will hold their 21st annual dance-frolic in the Columbus hall on New Year's night.

Local and General Items

Twenty years ago, this corner of the province experienced the severest cold spell for many years.

Corporal William J. Duncan and Pte. Frank Hosek returned to Bellville from overseas on Tuesday.

The local Columbus Club will hold their annual Christmas dance in the Columbus hall on Christmas night.

Hon. Solon Low, national leader of the Social Credit party, has been nominated federal candidate for Peace River.

A football player was asked what he did with his expense money. He replied: "Part went for liquor, part for women, and the rest I spent foolishly."

Robert Smeaton White, dean of newspaper men in Canada and for many years editor of the Montreal Gazette, died last week at the ripe age of 88. He was a member of the Sir John A. MacDonald government and a life-long Conservative.

Let's give our government all our best thinking—not just a piece of our cold spell for many years.

Coleman Elks will hold a Yuletide midnight frolic in the Community hall on Sunday night, starting at 12.01½ o'clock.

Sergt. Gladstone Clifford Morris, son of Adam Morris, of Coleman, died of injuries overseas. Mr. Morris suffered an heart attack following the news a few weeks ago, passing away.

We came upon a Latin proverb the other day whose significance not a few will appreciate: "Iudex damnatur cum nocens absolvitur"—The acquittal of the guilty is the condemnation of the judge.

Dances during the festive week will include the annual Christmas dance in the Lundbreck community hall on the night of Wednesday, December 27th, and the Bellevue Juvenile Hockey Club dance in the IOOF hall at Bellevue on Friday, December 29th.

"AS LITTLE CHILDREN"

The survival power of Christmas, its persistence as a world-wide festival, lies in the fact that it quickens in all of us the sense of human kinship. It gets beneath the surface cynicism and releases those finer impulses which we all possess. For a day we become again "as little children" and the child in our midst is the symbol of the joy which we seek.

A Merry Christmas then—merry because it brings to us vision of love ruling in the hearts of men, and renewed hope that the dream of a day may yet become the perpetual reality.

"CHRISTMAS GIFTS"

Romans exchanged gifts during celebrations. But giving of presents, of course, goes back much earlier. The Romans, however, gave it clearer identity as a part of their festival programme. Christmas boxes and cards of today have a link to the ancient Roman festivities. In France, gifts are distributed to children New Year's Eve instead of Christmas. In England, Germany, Italy and most everywhere else, the custom is like in the United States and Canada. Santa comes a-visiting at Christmas.

"About Old Santa Claus, Children's Patria Saint"

THE dictionary merely tells us that Santa Claus is a contraction of Saint Nicholas (see Nicholas, Saint). A turning of the pages reveals that Nicholas was bishop of Myra or Smyrna in Asia Minor about 300 A. D. He was the saint of sailors, and it was believed to offer special protection and comfort to sea-faring men, sailors, virgins and children. His affection for children was based on the assertion that he brought back to life the sick, scrofulous boy who had been disabled. An exception affords the name by which he is known in America to the early Dutch settlers who called him Sint Nicolaas.

But it little matters whether he be known as Saint Nicholas, Santa Claus, Kris Kringle, or a name of your own for the present, for the spirit on this climax holiday of the year is the important thing. It enters every home in the four corners of Christendom and touches the hearts of all the men and women in them. Moreover, it is essentially the spirit of childhood, the resilience of youth, the innocence of young life. Saint Nicholas may seem old, but he has no trace of the fears, regrets or prejudices of age. He and his children stand on the threshold of the world. Their banner is the banner of love.

On this day, dedicated to the memory of the birth of a child, belongs to all children. It is their carol, their laughter, their happiness which makes it sweet. And we older folk should on this day at least share their kindness, their tolerance, their purity and their Saint Nicholas.—The Boston Herald.

Printed Christmas Card

Was Issued Back in '43

THESE are more humbly about the Victoria and Albert museum than its other, more pretentious subjects.

The director has issued a Christmas Picture Book, says a writer in the London Star. It reveals the fact that the first Christmas card ever printed was issued only as recently as 1843.

The card, which was printed for Sir Henry Cole, first director of the South Kensington museum, was reproduced along with many other effects by artists, to celebrate the nativity. They range from a walrus ivory relief from Cologne to a modern woodcut by Eric Gill. It is strange to see how the artless wheel has turned full circle back to the walrus.

But I can't help liking the first Christmas card, which "features" as the folks say, a hearty meal. As the fat boy would say, "I like eating best."

"Christmas Man," Name Given to Kris Kringle

SANTA CLAUS does not visit the home of a little girl on Christmas eve as he does the children in this country, but there are all kinds of Christmas celebrations in which they have a part, and many good things to eat. In Germany and Norway old Kris Kringle hides gifts for the children under the Christmas tree, and Christmas day is spent chiefly in hunting for them. In Holland Saint Nicholas dispensed Christmas cheer, but when the Hollanders came to this country his name was changed to Santa Claus. In Sweden Santa Claus is much like him in America, but he does not come down the chimney, but in the night he comes into the room where the Christmas tree is and leaves gifts for all. His name is not Santa Claus, however, for he is called "The Christmas Man."

THE REAL SANTA CLAUS

THIS Christmas spirit is the real Santa Claus—a spirit that is universal—that grows with the spirit of the season. It brings out the best in us—a spirit that is made up of kindly thoughts and deeds, of hollowed memories and of "Good Will" to all.

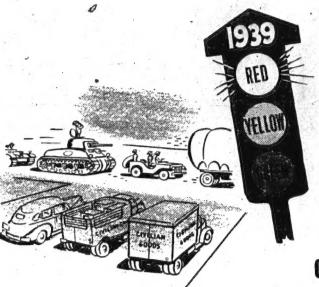
Shepherds and Wise Men
It is not clear from the Scriptural allusions that the shepherds who visited the newborn Jesus were the same as the wise men who saw his star in the East. Only Matthew and the story of the three wise men in the Bible mention the shepherds. Mark and John do not refer to either the shepherds or the wise men.

Keeps Candles From Dripping
To keep table candles from dripping, stick a pin in the candle alongside the wick and leave it there. It keeps the candle from melting, the flame burns longer and more steadily and decorations and tablecloth are kept free from grease.

Like Cash Christmas Presents
Happy is the woman who received a cash Christmas present, because she will have lots of fun at the January sale counters.

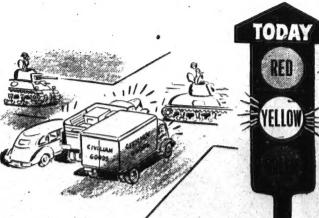
"I must warn the House and Country against any indulgence in the feeling that the war will soon be over!"
WINSTON CHURCHILL
in the British House of Commons
November 28th, 1944

DON'T CONFUSE THE SIGNALS



War came. The manufacture of most civilian goods had to be cut down or stopped to make way for war production. That caused shortages of civilian goods—that was the RED LIGHT.

don't jump the YELLOW light



Some restrictions are now being lifted, but it does not mean lots of goods right away. War's demands are still huge and must come first. We can't neglect them just so that some of us here at home can get a little more.

Don't confuse the signals—(This is the YELLOW LIGHT ONLY).

It means a little more of some things and it helps business men get ready for the time when there will be more materials and workers available.

It does not mean the end of shortages!

Getting back to peacetime production will necessarily be piecemeal and gradual.

"Patience" is the word.



it's NOT the green light yet

Only after Victory over both enemies can the Green Light be switched on, and the road cleared for enough production to meet all our civilian needs.

CHRISTMAS

Gifts

Each Day Reminds us that to You belongs the
Thanks for our Merry Christmas.

PLUNKETT & SAVAGE

Wholesale Distributors of "Gold Buckle" Oranges
Fruits - Vegetables - Cigars - Tobacco - Confectionery
BLAIRMORE, Alberta

Head Office LETHBRIDGE

Heartiest Season's
Greetings

CRYSTAL DAIRY
W. Oliver, Prop.
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

May this Christmas bring you all Happiness
and may the New Year bring
Prosperity

MODEL BAKERY

Vic Jensen, Prop.
BREAD CAKES PASTRY
Wedding and Party Cakes to Order
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

Heartiest Wishes for Your Health and Happiness
throughout the Christmas Season
and the New Year

REX CAFE

"A Good Place to Eat" ALBERTA

A Merry Christmas
and a
Prosperous New Year to Everybody

SARTORIS LUMBER COMPANY
C. Sartoris, Prop.
CONTRACTING - LUMBER - TIMBER

BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

May the New Year Bring you Prosperity and
this Christmas be a Merry One

CROWS' NEST FLOUR & FEED STORE
Martin Kubik, Prop. — Phone 75
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA



BLUE RIBBON
COFFEE - A Quality
Product Moderately Priced

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to Every Citizen of the Crows' Nest Pass

CREDIT JEWELLERS

M. Litvak, Proprietor
Watchmaker and Jeweller
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

and Sincere Good Wishes
for Christmas and the Coming Year
to all

BLAIRMORE BRANCH No. 7
OF THE
CANADIAN LEGION, B.E.S.L.
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

To the People of The Pass and outlying district,
we wish to extend heartiest wishes for
Christmas and the New Year.

UNION MEAT MARKET

C. Sartoris Prop. — Phone 224
BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

To you, all good friends, who have done so much to
make this a year of pleasant associations,
heartiest wishes are extended for a
Happier and More Prosperous New Year

Crows' Nest Pass Motors

Chevrolet and Oldsmobile Cars
Philco and Westinghouse Radios

BLAIRMORE ALBERTA

To Give Yourself Your Own Business

Your own government in
Alberta operates a complete
fire and life insurance business
for your benefit. It is
a social service, backed by
the entire resources of the
province.

All Treasury Branches and
agents throughout the province
are fully qualified and
ready to meet your insurance
needs. They offer you
insurance policies at the
lowest possible rates, with
maximum protection. Ask
your Treasury Branch manager
or local agent for full
information about low-cost
government insurance.

TREASURY BRANCH

S. Heppell, Manager, Blairstown

STRAYED

Strayed from Allison Valley, Cole-
man, three head of yearling cattle—
one red, white face, branded "UK"
connected rt. rib, wattle rt. sh ear
mark, fork and underslope. One red,
white-faced heifer, and one black,
white-faced steer, branded "TU" right
rib, ear mark, crop on one ear. \$5.00
a head reward. Notify Zaugg Bros.,
Stirling, Alberta.

Christmas

We extend to you our
Best Wishes for a
Merry Christmas and
Prosperous New Year

The Cosmopolitan Hotel

"BEST PLACE ON EARTH TO EAT"

Jas. E. Smith, Prop.

BLAIRMORE, ALBERTA